

[0057] Turning now to FIG. 4, an example of the secondary display 73 is shown. Specifically, FIG. 4 is an electro-mechanical display mechanism 128 which may operate in conjunction with the light valve 71, and the controller 100 to reveal one of a plurality of bonus awards. The secondary display 73 may include two rollers 130 and 132. At least one roller 132 may be operatively coupled to a motor 134 and a bearing 136, which may be fixed to the gaming unit 20. The motor 134 may rotate the roller 132 clockwise or counter-clockwise as determined by the controller 100. The motor 134 may be a stepper motor having a drive (not shown) and programmable indexer (not shown), as are well known in the art, to enable the motor to precisely turn roller 132 and position a belt 138. The second roller 130 may be a follower roller and may be operatively coupled to two bearings 136 which may be fixed to the gaming unit 20. The follower roller 130 may be driven by the belt 138 which may be in tension with the roller 130 and 132 such that the belt 138 does not slip along the rollers 130 and 132. The rotation of the motor 134 may drive the roller 138 which in turn may move the belt 138 and rotate the follower roller 130.

[0058] The belt 138 may display a plurality of awards, such as the AWARD #3, AWARD #4, and AWARD #5 illustrated by FIG. 4. The belt 138 may display any award indicia designed by the game designer, including numerical values, an image in conjunction with a value and a character in conjunction with a value. Moreover, the display may include one or more images and/or characters. The motor 134 may be programmed to rotate the belt 138 in any direction, using variable positions, velocities, and accelerations to stop at any time and display any desired award.

#### Overall Operation of Gaming Unit

[0059] One manner in which one or more of the gaming units 20 (and one or more of the gaming units 30) may operate is described below in connection with a number of flowcharts which represent a number of portions or routines of one or more computer programs, which may be stored in one or more of the memories of the controller 100. The computer program(s) or portions thereof may be stored remotely, outside of the gaming unit 20, and may control the operation of the gaming unit 20 from a remote location. Such remote control may be facilitated with the use of a wireless connection, or by an Internet interface that connects the gaming unit 20 with a remote computer (such as one of the network computers 22, 32) having a memory in which the computer program portions are stored. The computer program portions may be written in any high level language such as C, C++, C#, Java or the like or any low-level assembly or machine language. By storing the computer program portions therein, various portions of the memories 102, 106 are physically and/or structurally configured in accordance with computer program instructions.

[0060] FIG. 5 is a flowchart of a main operating routine 200 that may be stored in the memory of the controller 100. Referring to FIG. 5, the main routine 200 may begin operation at block 202 during which an attraction sequence may be performed in an attempt to induce a potential player in a casino to play the gaming unit 20. The attraction sequence may be performed by displaying one or more video images on the display unit 70 and/or causing one or more sound segments, such as voice or music, to be generated via the speakers 62. The attraction sequence may

include a scrolling list of games that may be played on the gaming unit 20 and/or video images of various games being played, such as video poker, video blackjack, video slots, video keno, video bingo, etc.

[0061] During performance of the attraction sequence, if a potential player makes any input to the gaming unit 20 as determined at block 204, the attraction sequence may be terminated and a game-selection display may be generated on the display unit 70 at block 206 to allow the player to select a game available on the gaming unit 20. The gaming unit 20 may detect an input at block 204 in various ways. For example, the gaming unit 20 could detect if the player presses any button on the gaming unit 20; the gaming unit 20 could determine if the player deposited one or more coins into the gaming unit 20; the gaming unit 20 could determine if player deposited paper currency into the gaming unit; etc.

[0062] The game-selection display generated at block 206 may include, for example, a list of video games that may be played on the gaming unit 20 and/or a visual message to prompt the player to deposit value into the gaming unit 20. While the game-selection display is generated, the gaming unit 20 may wait for the player to make a game selection. Upon selection of one of the games by the player as determined at block 208, the controller 100 may cause one of a number of game routines to be performed to allow the selected game to be played. For example, the game routines could include a video poker routine 210, a video blackjack routine 220, a slots routine 230, a video keno routine 240, and a video bingo routine 250. At block 208, if no game selection is made within a given period of time, the operation may branch back to block 202.

[0063] After one of the routines 210, 220, 230, 240, 250 has been performed to allow the player to play one of the games, block 260 may be utilized to determine whether the player wishes to terminate play on the gaming unit 20 or to select another game. If the player wishes to stop playing the gaming unit 20, which wish may be expressed, for example, by selecting a "Cash Out" button, the controller 100 may dispense value to the player at block 262 based on the outcome of the game(s) played by the player. The operation may then return to block 202. If the player did not wish to quit as determined at block 260, the routine may return to block 208 where the game-selection display may again be generated to allow the player to select another game.

[0064] It should be noted that although five gaming routines are shown in FIG. 5, a different number of routines could be included to allow play of a different number of games. The gaming unit 20 may also be programmed to allow play of different games.

[0065] FIG. 6 is a flowchart of an alternative main operating routine 300 that may be stored in the memory of the controller 100. The main routine 300 may be utilized for gaming units 20 that are designed to allow play of only a single game or single type of game. Referring to FIG. 6, the main routine 300 may begin operation at block 302 during which an attraction sequence may be performed in an attempt to induce a potential player in a casino to play the gaming unit 20. The attraction sequence may be performed by displaying one or more video images on the display unit 70 and/or causing one or more sound segments, such as voice or music, to be generated via the speakers 62.

[0066] During performance of the attraction sequence, if a potential player makes any input to the gaming unit 20 as